



Arizona Department of Education
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter Holders, and Principals

FROM: John A Stollar Jr
Associate Superintendent for Accountability
Rolanda Bell
Evaluation Director

DATE: July 1, 2009

SUBJECT: **Title III AMAO Appeals Process**
(REF: RE9003-E)

This memo is to inform you about the Title III AMAO Appeals Process developed by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) that provides LEAs the opportunity to appeal 2008-2009 Title III AMAO determinations. The ADE allows LEAs to appeal their respective determinations for statistical reasons only.

LEA administrators who choose to appeal their AMAO determination must complete and submit the Appeal Application via email to amao@azed.gov by July 10, 2009. This email should include the LEA Name, LEA Entity ID Number, Phone Number, Name, and Email Address of the contact person with a specific explanation of why the appeal should be granted. In addition, LEAs can request the data used to calculate the AMAOs, by sending an email to the AMAO email address. Appeals are accepted via an email submission only. Appeals sent to ADE via fax or mail will not be accepted.

Appeals are resolved through a committee process. The committee members represent a diverse background to ensure that appeals are considered from multiple perspectives. The committee will review and evaluate the significance of the argument presented and how the circumstances outlined in the argument affected the school's performance.

Types of AMAO Determination Appeals

Appeals may include one or more of the following:

- Calculation of the making progress objective: This includes appeals addressing the accuracy of who is enrolled in the LEA at the time the data was pulled.
- Calculation of the reclassified objective: This includes appeals addressing the accuracy of student enrollment and ELL status at the time the data was pulled.
- Determination of the AYP for ELL subgroup performance: AYP appeals are addressed through a separate appeals process. Please see the NCLB Technical Manual, located here:
<http://www.ade.az.gov/azlearns/AZLEARNSTechnicalManual2008.pdf>

Appeals Process

All appeals based on data discrepancies will be reviewed. Appeals that challenge the making progress or reclassified objective will be processed by verifying the information taken from the SDELL71 and SDELL72 reports. All statistical appeals need to be supported with compelling evidence.

Note: It is the responsibility of the LEA to ensure that the information reported to SAIS is accurate and the LEA's numbers match those reported to ADE.

Notification of Results Sent to LEAs

Once all of the submitted appeals are resolved, resolution notifications will be sent to the LEA contact person. These notifications will be sent prior to the final public release of the AMAO determinations. All appeals are final.

Public Release of AMAO Determinations

The final public release of the AMAO determinations is scheduled for September 1, 2009.